

John Boehner
Chairman
8th District, Ohio

*House Meets at 12:30 p.m. for Morning Hour
and 2:00 p.m. for Legislative Business
(No Votes Before 5:00 p.m.)*

Anticipated Floor Action:

**H.J.Res. 75—Recognizing Bob Hope as an Honorary Veteran of the U.S.
Armed Forces**

**H.R. 908—Establishing a Commission on Structural Alternatives for the
Federal Court of Appeals**

H.R. 1420—National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act

H.R. 1019—Raggeds Wilderness Boundary Adjustment Act

H.R. 1020—White River National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act

H.R. 1439—Facilitating the Sale of Certain Land in Tahoe National Forest

H.R. 79—Hoopa Valley Reservation South Boundary Adjustment Act



Bills Considered Under Suspension of the Rules

Floor Situation: The House will consider the following seven bills under suspension of the rules as its first order of business today. Each is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

H.J.Res. 75—Recognizing Bob Hope as an Honorary Veteran of the United States Armed Forces honors Bob Hope for his distinguished service to the men and women of the United States Armed Forces. For fifty years, beginning in 1941, Hope traveled the globe entertaining troops in combat zones and on lonely duty far from home. He entertained troops during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Persian Gulf War. The Veterans' Affairs Committee ordered the bill reported by voice vote on May 21, 1997.

H.R. 908—Establishing a Commission on Structural Alternatives for Federal Courts of Appeals establishes a 10-member commission to study the federal Court of Appeals system and determine the best way to alleviate the tremendous pressure on the court system that has developed over the last several years. The commission must report to Congress its recommendations to resolve the court system's caseload problem within 18 months of the appointment of the sixth commissioner. Two commissioners will be appointed by each party leader of both the House and Senate, and the president and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court will appoint one member each. H.R. 908 authorizes \$900,000—including \$500,000 appropriated in the 1996 Omnibus Appropriations Act (*P.L. 104-208*)—to fund committee operations and hire necessary staff, as well as provide for the expenses of commissioners when doing official business. CBO estimates that enactment of H.R. 908 will cost the federal government \$400,000 over two years. H.R. 908 was introduced by Mr. Coble and Mr. Berman and was reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on March 12, 1997.

H.R. 1420—National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act strengthens, clarifies, and modernizes the 1966 National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act (*P.L. 89-123*). Specifically, the bill (1) establishes one mission for the nation's 509 wildlife refuges; (2) requires that public use of a refuge may be allowed only when the use is compatible with the mission of the national wildlife system and purpose of the individual refuge, and creates standards by which the Interior Secretary may determine whether such uses are compatible; (3) states that wildlife-dependent recreational uses should be facilitated when they are compatible with an individual refuge; (4) requires the Fish & Wildlife Service to determine, prior to land acquisition, whether existing wildlife-dependent uses may continue during the implementation of a management plan; and (5) requires the completion of a conservation plan for each refuge within 15 years of the date of enactment. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The Resources Committee ordered the bill reported by voice vote on April 30, 1997.

H.R. 1019—Raggeds Wilderness Boundary Adjustment Act directs the Agriculture Secretary to convey to private landowners of the Crystal Meadows Subdivision in Gunnison County, Colorado, specific lands within the Raggeds Wilderness Area of the White River National Forest. In 1993, a new boundary survey discovered an encroachment of less than one acre into the Raggeds Wilderness Area west of Marble, Colorado, and the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service discovered that the original survey completed in 1959 was inaccurate. While only one acre of land is affected, the Forest Service cannot settle the matter since the lands in question are within the Raggeds Wilderness and the wilderness boundary may only be modified by an act of Congress. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. McInnis and reported by the Resources Committee by voice vote on May 21, 1997.

H.R. 1020—White River National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act adjusts the boundary of the Arapaho and White River National Forest in Colorado so that the Dillon Ranger District becomes an official part of the White River National Forest. The Dillon Ranger District is already under the jurisdictional management of the White River National Forest. However, this boundary adjustment is necessary because all official publications of the U.S. Forest Service reference the district as a part of the Arapaho National Forest, which has occasionally caused public confusion. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. McInnis and reported by the Resources Committee by voice vote on May 21, 1997.

H.R. 1439—Facilitating the Sale of Certain Land in Tahoe National Forest authorizes the U.S. Forest Service to sell 35 acres of land in Squaw Valley, California, to Placer County in order to build a park for the community. The legislation is needed to streamline the process for acquiring the property. The Placer County Parks Commission has allocated over \$250,000 for the acquisition and development of the park, which is widely supported in the community. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The Resources Committee ordered the bill reported by voice vote on May 21, 1997.

H.R. 79—Hoopa Valley Reservation South Boundary Adjustment Act authorizes the Secretary of Interior to convey certain lands near Humboldt Meridian, California, to the Hoopa Valley Tribe for addition to the Hoopa Valley Reservation. Although Congress conveyed 93,000 acres of land to the tribe in the 1800s, the survey excluded over 2,600 acres that belonged to the tribe at the time. In the 1870s, federal government surveyors apparently altered the agreed-upon boundary to avoid interfering with the mining interests of non-Indians in the area. Although the acreage in question has historically been used to supply timber for sales by the U.S. Forest Service, it remains important to the tribe and is used for ceremonies and other traditional purposes. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Riggs and reported by the Resources Committee by voice vote on May 21, 1997.

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #15, May 30, 1997.



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